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EXAMINER	
PATEL, ASHOKKUMAR B	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2154	

DATE MAILED: 03/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/921,167	BENNETT ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ashok B. Patel	2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *25 January 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-40* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *2 and 23* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-22 and 24-40* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 2-22 and 24-40 are subject to examination. Claims 2 and 23 are cancelled.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/25/2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-40 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Examiner would like to thank the Applicant for providing further explanation on the claim 1 and 22 as being "reformatting said associated message routing information in a format specified by said corresponding routing format information, wherein the reformatting is transparent to a sender and receiver of the message and the message body remains unchanged" (Applicant's remarks dated 05/10/2005) and "The Applicants' invention is a method and apparatus for routing a particular message from a sender in a first digital mobile network to an intended recipient in a second, different digital mobile network by reformatting the original routing information associated with the message into a routing format that is determined on a message-by-message basis, depending on

the destination receiver identifier, in order to allow transmission of the message between non-compatible digital mobile networks. This reformatting of the routing information is transparent to the sender and the receiver of the message, and the message body remains unchanged (specification as published, e.g., paragraphs [0038], [0046], [0056], [0057], [0062], and [0130]-[0131]). The Applicant's invention facilitates the transparent transmission of the message from the sender to the to specified receiving mobile network. **It does not requires or provide for,** the creation of instant message names, address lists, **or any other form of address translation;** rather, **only the address format is changed** in order to allow transmission between networks with incompatible addressing protocols. (Applicant's Remarks dated 09/26/2005).

Claim Objections

5. Claims 4 and 25 are objected to because of the following informalities: Claims 4 and 25 are shown to be dependent upon cancelled claims 2 and 23 respectively. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless-

> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1, 3-8, 16, 20-22, 24-28, 35, 39 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kennedy, III et al. (hereinafter Kennedy) (US 6, 018, 657).

Referring to claim 1,

Kennedy teaches a method executed in a computer system (Fig. 2, element 60a) for routing a message from a sender in a first digital mobile network (col. 3, line 43-52," Generally, messaging units 14 may be a cellular telephone that supports voice service, a pager unit that supports data service, a hybrid device that supports both voice and data service, or another device or component that can communicate information with cellular telephone network 12. Messaging units 14 may support inbound messaging (receivers), outbound messaging (transmitters), or both inbound and outbound messaging (transceivers). Also, messaging units 14 may be fixed or mobile depending on the particular application. For example, vehicles, persons, or other mobile items may be equipped with messaging units 14 to provide data service or voice and data service at the mobile item.", col. 4, line 15-30," Cellular telephone network 12 comprises a collection of cellular telephone systems having mobile switching centers (MSCs) 20 coupled together using link 22 or interconnection facilities 24. Cellular telephone network 12 may incorporate analog signaling techniques, such as those used in the Advanced Mobile Phone Service (AMPS), Narrowband Analog Mobile Phone Service (N-AMPS), European Total Access Communication System (ETACS), and EIA/TIA 553 standards. Cellular telephone network 12 may also incorporate digital signaling techniques, such as code division multiple access (CDMA), time division multiple

access (TDMA), or other appropriate digital technique. Cellular telephone network 12 may also support various digital standards, such as United States Digital Cellular (USDC), Global System for Mobile (GSM), IS-54, IS-95, and other variants." col. 4, line 40-43," Specifically, interconnection facilities 24 support the network protocol standard IS-41, including autonomous registration, to provide interoperator roaming of messaging units 14.", col. 5, line 65-col. 6, line 19) to an intended receiver in a second different digital mobile network (col. 3, line 43-52," Generally, messaging units 14 may be a cellular telephone that supports voice service, a pager unit that supports data service, a hybrid device that supports both voice and data service, or another device or component that can communicate information with cellular telephone network 12. Messaging units 14 may support inbound messaging (receivers), outbound messaging (transmitters), or both inbound and outbound messaging (transceivers). Also, messaging units 14 may be fixed or mobile depending on the particular application. For example, vehicles, persons, or other mobile items may be equipped with messaging units 14 to provide data service or voice and data service at the mobile item.", col. 4, line 15-30," Cellular telephone network 12 comprises a collection of cellular telephone systems having mobile switching centers (MSCs) 20 coupled together using link 22 or interconnection facilities 24. Cellular telephone network 12 may incorporate analog signaling techniques, such as those used in the Advanced Mobile Phone Service (AMPS), Narrowband Analog Mobile Phone Service (N-AMPS), European Total Access Communication System (ETACS), and EIA/TIA 553 standards. Cellular telephone network 12 may also incorporate digital signaling techniques, such as code division

multiple access (CDMA), time division multiple access (TDMA), or other appropriate digital technique. Cellular telephone network 12 may also support various digital standards, such as United States Digital Cellular (USDC), Global System for Mobile (GSM), IS-54, IS-95, and other variants." col. 4, line 40-43," Specifically, interconnection facilities 24 support the network protocol standard IS-41, including autonomous registration, to provide interoperator roaming of messaging units 14.", col. 5, line 65-col. 6, line 19), the message comprising a message body (col. 9, line 41-46, "For example, message data 114 may include pages, electronic mail messages, facsimile data, compressed and/or digitized voice messages, geographical location coordinates of messaging units 14, sensor information collected by messaging units 14, or other information not associated with the operation of cellular telephone network 12.") and associated message routing information (Fig. 3, element 102)", the method comprising:

forwarding said message to a server from said sender, said server being connectable to said first and said second digital mobile network (col. 6, line 59 through col. 7, line 2," To deliver the message from NCC 16 to messaging unit 14b, NCC 16 retrieves the message from message database 42 and consults registration database 44 to determine that MSC 20b currently provides communication services to messaging unit 14b. This may be indicated by a table stored in registration database 44 that relates messaging unit 14b to a SID, MSCID, SWID, RAP, TLDN, or other information regarding cellular telephone network 12 or MSC 20b. Using the retrieved information, NCC 16 generates an appropriate message for communication to MSC 20b using interconnection facilities 24.", col. 5, line 65-col. 6, line 19);

relating, using a routing database (col. 5, line 65-col. 6, line 19, "Registration database 44 stores geographical coordinates such as global positioning system (GPS) position fixes, LORAN-C information, or other geographical information received from messaging units 14. Registration database 44 also stores cellular telephone system information on the current cellular telephone system, MSC 20, cell site 30, or other component of cellular telephone network 12 that currently provides communication services to messaging units 14. This information may include a system identification number (SID), a mobile serving carrier ID (MSCID), a switch ID (SWID), or any other identifier of the communications provider. Furthermore, this information may include an access number for the communication provider, such as a number for a roamer access port (RAP), rural service area (RSA) information, temporary local dialing number (TLDN), or information associated with autonomous registration under the IS-41 standard. Registration database 44 maintains and associates this information with messaging units 14 to allow NCC 16 to deliver messages to messaging units 14. For example, NCC 16 may identify messaging units 14 associated with trucks or other vehicles using a truck identification number (TIN)."), a receiver identifier, the receiver identifier being contained in the associated message routing information and associated with the intended receiver (Fig. 3, element 102), to corresponding routing format information associated with the second digital mobile network, the routing format information associated the second mobile network comprising at least a mobile carrier interface type (col. 5, line 65-col. 6, line 19, "Registration database 44 stores geographical coordinates such as global positioning system (GPS) position fixes, LORAN-C information, or other

geographical information received from messaging units 14. Registration database 44 also stores cellular telephone system information on the current cellular telephone system, MSC 20, cell site 30, or other component of cellular telephone network 12 that currently provides communication services to messaging units 14. This information may include a system identification number (SID), a mobile serving carrier ID (MSCID), a switch ID (SWID), or any other identifier of the communications provider. Furthermore, this information may include an access number for the communication provider, such as a number for a roamer access port (RAP), rural service area (RSA) information, temporary local dialing number (TLDN), or information associated with autonomous registration under the IS-41 standard. Registration database 44 maintains and associates this information with messaging units 14 to allow NCC 16 to deliver messages to messaging units 14. For example, NCC 16 may identify messaging units 14 associated with trucks or other vehicles using a truck identification number (TIN).")and a mobile carrier addressing format type (col. 12, line 14-17, "For convenience this method will be described with reference to MSC 20, but its teachings are equally applicable to the processing of a message at home MSC 60 and NCC 16.", line 60-63, "After determining the appropriate message format and addressing, MSC 20 communicates the message at step 524, and the method ends.");

reformatting said associated message routing information in a format specified by said corresponding routing format information (Fig. 3, element 104), wherein the reformatting is transparent to a sender and receiver of the message and the message body remains unchanged (Fig. 3, element "DATA", col. 9, line 41-46, "For example,

message data 114 may include pages, electronic mail messages, facsimile data, compressed and/or digitized voice messages, geographical location coordinates of messaging units 14, sensor information collected by messaging units 14, or other information not associated with the operation of cellular telephone network 12.") by the steps of:

translating the receiver identifier to a destination address that conforms to the mobile carrier addressing format type (col. 3, line 43-49, col. 12, line 14-17, "For convenience this method will be described with reference to MSC 20, but its teachings are equally applicable to the processing of a message at home MSC 60 and NCC 16.", line 60-63, "After determining the appropriate message format and addressing, MSC 20 communicates the message at step 524, and the method ends.");

placing the destination address into a reformatted message that has a structure that conforms to the mobile carrier format type (Fig. 3, elements 104, 134 and 144), and placing the message body unchanged into the reformatted message in a manner that conforms to the mobile carrier format type (Fig. 3, element "DATA", col. 9, line 41-46); and

forwarding said formatted message to said receiver in accordance with the reformatted associated message routing information (Fig. 7, element 524).

Referring to claim 3,

Kennedy teaches the method of claim 1, wherein said message is a short message service message. (Page 2, GSM03.41, col. 4, line 15-33, GSM includes "SMS".)

Referring to claim 4,

Kennedy teaches the method of claim 2, wherein the sender sends the message and the receiver receives the message using at least one of digital mobile device connected to the internet, digital mobile device connected to the server through a service center of an associated mobile network operator, and computer system connected to the internet. (Fig. 2, element 14a, 14b, col. 4, line 15-33)

Referring to claim 5,

Kennedy teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising:

performing a first query using the routing database to determine a countrywide mobile identification number format of a county associated with the receiver (col. 4, line 61-65).

Referring to claim 6,

Kennedy teaches the method of claim 5, further comprising:

performing a second query using the routing database to determine if information identifying the receiver is included in the routing database (col. 5, line 56-64).

Referring to claim 7,

Kennedy teaches the method of claim 6, further comprising:

performing a third query using the routing database to determine said routing information associated with the second digital mobile network of the receiver, said routing information including at least one of: format of a message, electronic mail address format, and message delivery method. (col. 12, line 60-63)

Referring to claim 8,

Kennedy teaches the method of claim 7,wherein routing information including a message delivery method uses one, of a direct connection to an operator, an application, and e-mail connection. ((col. 12, line 60-63, col. 3, line 43-49).

Referring to claim 16,

Kennedy teaches the method of claim 1, wherein said sender is sending the message to a plurality of users, each of said plurality of users receiving the message being on different digital mobile networks. (col. 3, line 43-63, col. 4, line 15-33).

Referring to claim 20,

Kennedy teaches the method of claim 1, wherein said computer system includes said server and a plurality of different digital mobile networks, said plurality of different digital mobile networks including said first and said second digital mobile networks, communications within said computer system being represented as a hub-like structure with said server as the center and each of said plurality of digital mobile networks being a spoke extending from said server, all communications between any two of said plurality of digital mobile networks being facilitated by said server. (col. 3, line 43-63, col. 4, line 15-33, Figs. 1 and 2).

Referring to claim 21,

Kennedy teaches the method of claim 20, wherein the message is sent between a sender and receiver independent of operator, location, and network protocols using said server. (col. 3, line 43-63, col. 4, line 15-33, Figs. 1 and 2, col. 5, line 65-col. 6, line 19).

Referring to claim 22,

Claim 22 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 1. Therefore claim 22 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 1 .

Referring to claim 24,

Claim 24 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 3. Therefore claim 24 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 3 .

Referring to claim 25,

Claim 25 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 4. Therefore claim 25 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 4 .

Referring to claim 26,

Claim 26 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 5. Therefore claim 26 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 5 .

Referring to claim 27,

Claim 27 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 6. Therefore claim 27 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 6 .

Referring to claim 28,

Claim 28 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 7. Therefore claim 28 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 7.

Referring to claim 35,

Claim 35 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 16. Therefore claim 35 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 16.

Referring to claim 39,

Claim 39 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 20. Therefore claim 39 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 20.

Referring to claim 40,

Claim 40 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 21. Therefore claim 40 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 21.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 9-15, 17-19, 29-34, and 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kennedy, III et al. (hereinafter Kennedy) (US 6, 018, 657) in view of Carey et al. (hereinafter Carey) (US 2004/0171396 A1).

Referring to claims 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15,

Keeping in mind the teachings of Kennedy as stated above, Kennedy fails to teach the limitations of claims 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15.

Carey teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising: polling said server by the sender for data (page 2, para.[0024]). Carey teaches the method of claim 9, further comprising: communicating a request for data to said server (page 2, para.[0024]). Carey teaches the method of claim 10, wherein said communicating a request for data to said server further comprises: directly sending a message to the server requesting information (page 2, para.[0024]). Carey teaches the method of claim 10, wherein said communicating a request for data to said server, further comprises: communicating the request for data to a messaging service center in said first digital mobile network; polling, by said server, the messaging service center for the request; and transmitting the request to said server. (page 2, para. [0022], [0024]). Carey teaches the method of claim 12, wherein the request includes a keyword, said keyword being one of a command and a phone number. (page 2, para. [0025]). Carey teaches the method of claim 13, wherein the request is for at least one of stock information, weather information for a particular location identified in the message, and an application (page 3, para. [0029],[0030]). Carey teaches the method of claim 14, wherein said a requested

application is at least one of a game, ringtones in connection with audio tones, and a chat service (page 3, para. [0029],[0030]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to add the teachings of Carey to the system including NCC and Interconnection Facilities because "there exists a need to provide the benefits of instant messaging, immediate knowledge of another online status and real-time text communication, outside of hardwired Internet systems, specifically in a wireless environment, it would be advantageous to know if a subscriber has turned on their cellular phone. It would also be advantageous to communicate via text messages, which are far less costly than voice communications because text message data uses up much less bandwidth or resources than voice data.

Referring to claim 17,

Kennedy teaches the method of claim 16, further comprising: reformatting said message in accordance with a format associated with a particular digital mobile networks network for each of said plurality of users on different digital mobile networks. (col. 3, line 43-49, col. 12, line 14-17, "For convenience this method will be described with reference to MSC 20, but its teachings are equally applicable to the processing of a message at home MSC 60 and NCC 16.", line 60-63, "After determining the appropriate message format and addressing, MSC 20 communicates the message at step 524, and the method ends."), Kennedy fails to teach determining which of said plurality of users receiving the message are included in a buddy list, said buddy list including user specific information for message recipients.

Carey teaches the method of claim 16, further comprising: determining which of said plurality of users receiving the message are included in a buddy list, said buddy list including user specific information for message recipients (page 2, para.[0021], page 3, para. [0028]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to add the teachings of Carey to the system including NCC and Interconnection Facilities because "there exists a need to provide the benefits of instant messaging, immediate knowledge of another online status and real-time text communication, outside of hardwired Internet systems, specifically in a wireless environment, it would be advantageous to know if a subscriber has turned on their cellular phone. It would also be advantageous to communicate via text messages, which are far less costly than voice communications because text message data uses up much less bandwidth or resources than voice data. Also, For instant messages sent or received by a mobile unit device with known buddies, the instant message is optimized by tagging the instant message with a routing phone number that is unique to the mobile unit device and buddy combination, whose identity is stored both in the mobile unit device address book and in the instant message routing server.(Abstract of Carey.

Referring to claim 18,

Kennedy teaches the method of claim 17, further comprising: determining if a message recipient is within the first digital mobile network of said sender. (col. 10, line 28-31)

Referring to claim 19,

Kennedy teaches the method of claim 18, further comprising:

reformatting an electronic mailing address from a first format associated with said first digital mobile network to a second format associated with the second digital mobile network.(col. 3, line 43-49, col. 12, line 14-17, "For convenience this method will be described with reference to MSC 20, but its teachings are equally applicable to the processing of a message at home MSC 60 and NCC 16.", line 60-63, "After determining the appropriate message format and addressing, MSC 20 communicates the message at step 524, and the method ends.")

Referring to claim 29,

Claim 29 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 9. Therefore claim 29 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 9.

Referring to claim 30,

Claim 30 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 10. Therefore claim 30 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 10.

Referring to claim 31,

Claim 31 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 11. Therefore claim 31 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 11.

Referring to claim 32,

Claim 32 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 12. Therefore claim 32 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 12.

Referring to claim 33,

Claim 33 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 13. Therefore claim 33 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 13.

Referring to claim 34,

Claim 34 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 14. Therefore claim 34 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 14.

Referring to claim 36,

Claim 36 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 17. Therefore claim 36 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 17.

Referring to claim 37,

Claim 37 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 18. Therefore claim 37 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 18.

Referring to claim 38,

Claim 38 is a claim to a computer program product when executed performs the steps of method of claim 19. Therefore claim 38 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 19.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

Prior Art not relied upon:

Please refer to the references listed in the attached PT0-892 which are not relied upon for claim rejections since these references are relevant to the claimed invention. The reference Purcell et al. (hereinafter Purcell) is effervescent in elucidating "Address Translation" in col. 8, line 20 through col. 10, line 11. Purcell teaches this translation since Purcell has observed, as stated by Purcell, "the type of global title addressing used in the North American network is International Mobile Station Identity (IMSI) 92, as defined by ITU recommendation E.212, herein incorporated by reference. The type of global title addressing used in the foreign networks is Mobile Global Title (MGT), as defined in ITU Recommendation E.214,..", col. 8, line 21-32.

Conclusion

Examiner's note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the

claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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Abp
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